


THEILKEN, EMMA

DRAWER 19 A

Artists - T.

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Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Emma Theilken

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

4871922
JOURNAL JANUAR**Springfield Girl, 15,
Regarded as Prodigy
in Art Circles of City**
See State Journal 1-1-22

Despite a partial handicap of deafness, Emma Theilken, 15 years old, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Theilken, 1406 South Walnut street, is regarded as a youthful prodigy because of her oil paintings recently exhibited to public view in the court house.

One of her paintings hangs in the circuit court room. Miss Theilken presented it to the judges two days ago. It is a copy of a famous painting, "Lincoln at Gettysburg." It depicts Abraham Lincoln, on the flag-draped speaker's platform, as he delivered his famous Gettysburg address.

The work is done in oil and was accomplished without outside aid to any great extent. Because Miss Theilken has developed her talent with very little instruction, the picture is regarded as an indication of future greatness.

And the second of Miss Theilken's oils was hung in the sheriff's office yesterday. It is a portrait of Ora E. Lemmons, chief deputy sheriff. Friends of the deputy say that it is a striking likeness.

Because of her partial affliction, Mr. and Mrs. Theilken have taken their daughter from school. She is now receiving instruction at home and continuing her painting lessons at the Sacred Heart convent. Mr. and Mrs. Theilken plan a liberal arts education for their daughter in the future.

PORTRAIT OF LINCOLN HUNG IN COURT ROOM

PICTURE MORE THAN THREE
FEET HIGH PAINTED BY
DAUGHTER OF COURT

See State Reg. 1-8-22
BAILIFF.

In the circuit court of Sangamon county, where Abraham Lincoln once practiced law, hangs a portrait of the Great Emancipator delivering his famous Gettysburg address. It was hung this week and is the product of the brushes and agile hand of Miss Emma Theilken, daughter of Benjamin Theilken, court bailiff, 1406 South Walnut street.

The painting, done in oil, is an exceptional piece of work, and predicts a bright future for the young artist, who has just passed her fifteenth birthday. Miss Theilken won first prize on a scenery painting at the Illinois State Fair last year.

In the portrait of Lincoln she has blended the colors with great ability, and in granting permission to hang the picture in the historic court room, Judge E. S. Smith spoke in high terms of the work and expressed great appreciation of its being placed in the room.

Miss Theilken's subject for the portrait, which is more than three in height, was on the calendar given as a compliment of the Sangamon County Abstract company. Not only does the girl do her work well, but she is exceedingly rapid with the brushes. She started to paint the picture in the morning and at noon, with the exception of a few finishing touches, it was completed.

She has just finished a portrait of Chief Deputy Sheriff Ora Lemon, which also depicts her skill in manipulating the brushes. Miss Theilken is a natural born artist. She never studied under any master, and began lessons only a few weeks ago at the Sacred Heart Convent.

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